REGULATIONS PART VI
JUDGES – PERFORMANCE DISCIPLINES

This Part incorporates Regulations of Dogs Australia

PART 3C: OBEDIENCE TRIAL JUDGES TRAINING SCHEME
https://dogsaustralia.org.au/media/9675/ankc-reg3c_obedience_oct15.pdf

PART 3D: ENDURANCE TRIAL JUDGES TRAINING SCHEME
https://dogsaustralia.org.au/media/9674/ankc-reg3d_endurance_oct15.pdf

PART 3E(a): TRACKING TRIAL JUDGES TRAINING SCHEME
https://dogsaustralia.org.au/media/9673/ankc-reg3ea_tracking-2019.pdf

PART 3E(b): TRACK & SEARCH TRIAL JUDGES TRAINING SCHEME
https://dogsaustralia.org.au/media/9672/ankc-reg3eb_-track-search-2019.pdf

PART 3F: RALLY TRIAL JUDGES TRAINING SCHEME
https://dogsaustralia.org.au/media/9671/ankc-reg3f_rally_oct15.pdf

PART 3G: AGILITY JUMPING & GAMES TRIAL JUDGES TRAINING SCHEME
https://dogsaustralia.org.au/media/9670/ankc-reg3g_judges-agility_oct1

PART 3H: DANCES WITH DOGS COMPETITION JUDGES TRAINING SCHEME
https://dogsaustralia.org.au/media/9669/ankc-reg3h_judges-dwd_2019.pdf

PART 3Hb: TRICK DOG JUDGES TRAINING SCHEME
https://dogsaustralia.org.au/media/9668/ankc-reg3h-b-_judges-trick-dog-2020.pdf

PART 3J: SLED DOG SPORTS JUDGES TRAINING & ASSESSMENT PROGRAM
https://dogsaustralia.org.au/media/9666/ankc-reg3j_sled-dog-sports-judges_oct-16.pdf

PART 3K: DRAFT TEST JUDGES TRAINING SCHEME & ASSESSMENT PROGRAM
https://dogsaustralia.org.au/media/9820/da-reg3k-draft-test-judges_01012022.pdf012022.pdf

PART 3L: LURE COURSING JUDGES TRAINING & ASSESSMENT PROGRAM
https://dogsaustralia.org.au/media/9930/da-reg3l-lure-coursing-judges_01-01-2023.pdf

PART 3M: HERDING JUDGES TRAINING & ASSESSMENT PROGRAM
https://dogsaustralia.org.au/media/9663/ankc-reg3m_-herding-judges_oct-17.pdf17.pdf

PART 30: SELECTION & TRAINING OF EARTHDOG JUDGES
https://dogsaustralia.org.au/media/9801/dogs-aust-reg3o_judges-earthdog_01-01-22.pdf

PART 3P: SPRINTDOG™ JUDGES TRAINING & ASSESSMENT PROGRAM
dogs-aust-reg3p_judges-sprintdog_01-08-24.pdf (dogsaustralia.org.au)

Reference to "Dogs Australia" herein is a reference to the Australian National Kennel Council Limited (ABN 77 151 544 679) trading as Dogs Australia

Amended December 2006 ***Amended April 2009*** ***Amended December 2010***
Amended September 2012 ***Amended February 2013*** ***Amended May 2013***
Amended April 2015 ***Amended October 2015*** ***Amended May 2018***
Amended July 2018 – to amend DOGS NSW to DOGS NSW ***Amended July 2019***
Amended August 2019 ***Amended November 2019*** ***Amended August 2020***
Amended August 2022 ANKC Ltd to Dogs Australia ***Amended December 2022***
Amended July 2023 – to include Dogs Australia riderAmended 25 August 2023 (Electronic Board Meeting)
Amended 11 October 2023 ***Amended 27 October 2023*** ***Amended 9 October 2024***
Amended 13 August 2025 ***Amended 10 December 2025*** ***Amended 13 March 2026***
Amended 15 April 2026 ***Amended 13 May 2026***

Amended 26 August 2026 (remove Scent Work)

DOGS NEW SOUTH WALES
PO BOX 632, ST MARYS NSW 1790
TEL: (02) 9834 3022 FAX: (02) 9834 3872

REGULATIONS

PART VI – JUDGES – PERFORMANCE DISCIPLINES

INDEX **PAGE**

SECTION 1	General	3
SECTION 2	Entrance Qualifications	7
SECTION 3	List of Judges - Responsibilities and Privileges of Judges	13
SECTION 4	Judging Appointments - Judging at Recognised Shows	15
SECTION 5	DOGS NSW Obedience Judges Training and Examination Scheme	17
SECTION 6	Judges Code of Practice	26
SECTION 7	Maintenance of Skills and Knowledge	27

REGULATIONS

PART VI – JUDGES – PERFORMANCE DISCIPLINES

SECTION 1

GENERAL

1.1 (a) This part of the Regulations shall be deemed to have come into force on 15 April 2015 and shall supersede all previous Part VI Regulations

(b) Subject to the direction of the Board of Directors; the DOGS NSW Secretary shall be responsible for the implementation and administration of this Scheme under these Regulations.

(c) These Regulations are to be read in conjunction with Dogs Australia Regulations relating to the relevant Dogs Australia approved performance discipline. **(07/23)**

Constitution of Judges Lists – Performance Disciplines

1.2 Until otherwise determined by the Board of Directors the following Judges Lists are hereby constituted being judges of Dogs Australia approved performance disciplines:- **(07/23)**

1.2.1 Agility Judges List
A person appointed thereto shall be entitled to judge at a recognised Trial conducted inside or outside the State such sections of an Agility Trial for which he/she has been approved.

1.2.2 Dances With Dogs Judges List
A person appointed thereto shall be entitled to judge at a recognised Competition conducted inside or outside the State all such sections of a Dances With Dogs Competition for which he/she has been approved.

1.2.3 Earthdog Judges List
A person appointed thereto shall be entitled to judge at a recognised Test conducted inside or outside the State, such Test Classes for which he/she has been approved.

1.2.4 Endurance Test Judges List
A person appointed thereto shall be entitled to judge at a recognised Test conducted inside or outside the State.

1.2.5 Herding Judges List

(a) Test Judges - A person appointed thereto shall be entitled to judge at a recognised Test conducted inside or outside the State all Herding Test Classes.

(b) Trial Judges - A person appointed thereto shall be entitled to judge at a recognised Trial conducted inside or outside the State, all Test Classes and such Trial Classes and Courses for which he/she has been approved.

1.2.6 Lure Coursing Judges List

A person appointed thereto shall be entitled to judge at a sanctioned Test or Trial conducted inside or outside the State, such classes for which he/she has been approved.

1.2.7 Obedience

(a) Utility Excellent Judges List

A person appointed thereto shall be entitled to judge at a Recognised Trial conducted inside or outside the State all exercises in Community Companion dog, Novice, Open, Utility and Utility Dog Excellent sections of any such Trial.

(b) Utility Obedience Judges List

A person appointed thereto shall be entitled to judge at a Recognised Trial conducted inside or outside the State all exercises in Community Companion dog, Novice, Open and Utility sections of any such Trial.

(c) Open Obedience Judges List

A person appointed thereto shall be entitled to judge at a Recognised Trial conducted inside or outside the State all exercises in Community Companion dog, Novice and Open Obedience sections of any such Trial.

(d) Novice Obedience Judges List

A person appointed thereto shall be entitled to judge at a Recognised Trial conducted inside or outside the State all exercises in the Community Companion dog and Novice Obedience section of any such Trial.

(e) Community Companion Dog Judges List

A person appointed thereto shall be entitled to judge at a Recognised Trial conducted inside or outside the State all exercises in the Community Companion dog section of any such Trial.

1.2.8 Rally Judges List

A person appointed thereto shall be entitled to judge at a recognised Trial conducted inside or outside the State all sections of any such Trial.

1.2.9 Sled Sport Judges List

A person appointed thereto shall be entitled to judge at a recognised Event conducted inside or outside the State such sections of the Event for which he/she has been approved.

1.2.10 (a) Tracking Judges List

A person appointed thereto shall be entitled to judge at a Recognised Trial conducted inside or outside the State all sections of a Tracking Trial.

(b) Track and Search Dog Judges List

A person appointed thereto shall be entitled to judge at a Recognised Trial conducted inside or outside the State all sections of a Tracking Trial or a Track and Search Dog Trial.

Registrar

1.3 The DOGS NSW Secretary shall be the Registrar of the Judges Lists. He/she shall keep a record of the names and addresses of the persons appointed to and record all resignations or removals from the respective Judges Lists and at least once in each year shall publish a list of names and addresses of the members of each Judges List and of subsequent appointments thereto.

1.4 Performance Judges Training and Examination Scheme

The Scheme shall encompass:

(1) Theory Tuition in the form of Lectures and/or Lecture Notes followed by examination. This Examination will be set on the Rules applicable to the discipline or section of the discipline for which enrolled.

Candidates not already on a Judges List will also be examined on the Rules and Regulations of DOGS NSW as pertain to the discipline or section of the discipline for which enrolled.

(2) On successful completion of such an examination, Practical Tuition and Training will be given and satisfactory attendance at such Practical Days will be a prerequisite to be admitted to a Final Practical Examination. Much of the practical experience to prepare for a final examination will need to be undertaken by self education.

1.5 Examination Procedure

(a) Post and Deferred Examinations for Candidates will only be available with approval of the Board of Directors; AND in the case of Deferred Examinations, only after written application by the Candidate to the DOGS NSW Secretary, SETTING OUT VALID REASONS for such request; the Manager's decision in respect thereof shall be final.

(b) No Candidate nor any member of the Candidate's household, nor any member of the Candidate's direct family may be involved as an Examiner or in setting Examination Papers for any performance discipline subject of this Regulation for which the Candidate is enrolled.

(c) A person who is a Candidate for an examination shall not be appointed to the Agility Judges Committee, Obedience Tracking Endurance & Rally Judges Committee or any other Committee conducting an examination and a member of any such Committee shall not enrol his or herself for examination. **(08/23)**

(d) A Candidate who fails an examination may, upon payment of a prescribed fee, request that marks awarded be reviewed by the Committee appointed by the DOGS NSW Secretary to mark examination papers. The decision of the Committee in relation to any such review shall for all purposes be final and binding and no further correspondence shall be entered into, unless with the express approval of the Board of Directors.

(e) If a Candidate passes a theory examination but fails subsequently to pass the practical examination, provided the Candidate reapplies within three (3) years from the date of their original examination the Candidate will be exempt from resitting the theory examination except where Dogs Australia Rules or Regulations for that discipline provide otherwise. **(07/23)**

1.6 DELETED **(04/15)**

1.7 Fees

Fees which are commensurate with administrative and actual costs shall apply to each Level of Examination. The Board of Directors will determine the scale of fees to be charged.

1.8 Decisions of the Board of Directors

The decisions of the Board of Directors on any matter arising from or relating to the Performance Judges Training and Examination Scheme or these Regulations shall be final and binding on all concerned.

SECTION 2

Entrance Qualifications

2.1 The following entrance qualifications apply:-

2.1.1 A Candidate for Agility Trial Examination must:

1. be and have been for at least three (3) years a financial Member of DOGS NSW or of another canine controlling body.

2. be at least eighteen (18) years of age.

3. be a resident of NSW.

4. apply in writing and submit to DOGS NSW with the application, a written certificate from an Affiliated Dog Club that he/she has been a Steward at not less than four (4) Official Trials during the preceding twelve (12) months in any of the following capacities:
   a. Trial Manager
   b. Chief Steward
   c. Time Keeper
   d. Scribe
   e. Assembly Steward

5. have personally trained and trialled a dog to Agility Dog Title and supply full details thereof to the Board of Directors.

2.1.2 A Candidate for Dances With Dogs Judges Examination must:

1. Be a financial member of DOGS NSW.

2. Have been a financial member of DOGS NSW for at least 12 months prior to the application.

3. Be at least eighteen (18) years of age.

4. Be a resident of NSW.

5. Have personally trained, competed with and achieved a minimum of two qualifying certificates for a dog in Novice class in either Freestyle or Heelwork to Music.

6. Apply in writing and submit to DOGS NSW with the application evidence that he/she has been a Steward at not less than four (4)official DOGS NSW Competitions during the preceding twelve (12) months in any of the following capacities:
   a. Scribe and collation Steward
   b. Assembly steward
   c. Music checks and Audio Steward

2.1.3 A Candidate for Earthdog Judges Examination must meet the criteria as set out in the relevant Dogs Australia Rules and Regulations. **(07/23)**

2.1.4 A Candidate for Endurance Test Judges Examination must:

1. be a financial Member of DOGS NSW.

2. be at least eighteen (18) years of age.

3. be a resident of NSW.

4. apply in writing (on such form as may be required) to the Obedience Tracking Endurance & Rally Judges and Judges Training Scheme Committee. **(08/23)**

5. submit with the application a written statement from an affiliated Dog Obedience Club that the Candidate has been an active member of that Club for not less than three (3) years.

6. submit a statement providing full details of the Candidate's involvement with Endurance Tests.

7. have personally trained a dog to Endurance Test applied and been granted the dog's title and supply full details to the Committee, and

8. if accepted as a Candidate, sign a release of DOGS NSW in respect of any liability arising out of the Examination, in such form as DOGS NSW may require.

2.1.5 A Candidate for Herding Judges Examination must meet the criteria as set out in the relevant Dogs Australia Rules and Regulations. **(07/23)**

2.1.6 A Candidate for Lure Coursing Judges Examination must meet the criteria as set out in the relevant Dogs Australia Rules and Regulations. **(07/23)**

2.1.7 Obedience

(a) A Candidate for Community Companion Obedience Examination must:

1. have been a financial member of DOGS NSW for three (3) years prior to application. **(04/26)**

2. be at least eighteen (18) years of age.

3. be a resident of NSW.

4. apply in writing and submit to the Board of Directors with the application, a written certificate that he/she has been a Ring Steward/Trial Official at not less than three (3) official trials in the past twelve (12) months. **(08/19)**

5. have personally trained and trialled a dog to Community Companion Dog title and supply full details thereof to the Board of Directors.

6. Has been an active Member of an Affiliated Club for not less than three (3) years. **(08/19)**

7. Has been an active Instructor for not less than three (3) years. **(08/19)**

(b) A Candidate for Novice Obedience Examination must:

1. have been a Ring Steward/Trial Official at not less than three (3) official trials in the past twelve (12) months and supply full details thereof to the Board of Directors prior to the date of the practical examination. **(08/19)**

2. have judged at least six (6) recognised Community Companion Dog All Breeds Obedience Club Trials, which in the opinion of the Obedience Tracking Endurance & Rally Judges Committee, were of sufficiently high standard and supply full details thereof to the Board of Directors prior to the date of the practical examination. **(08/23)**

3. have personally trained and trialled a dog to Companion Dog title and applied for and been granted the dog's title and supply full details thereof to the Board of Directors with their application.

4. be listed on the current DOGS NSW List of Approved Judges for Community Companion Dog Obedience.

(c) A Candidate for Open Obedience Examination must:

1. have been a Ring Steward/Trial Official at not less than three (3) official trials in the past twelve (12) months and supply full details thereof to the Board of Directors prior to the date of the practical examination. **(08/19)**

2. have judged at least six (6) recognised Novice All Breeds Obedience Club Trials, which in the opinion of the Obedience Tracking Endurance & Rally Judges Committee, were of sufficiently high standard and supply full details thereof to the Board of Directors prior to the date of the practical examination. **(08/23)**

3. have personally trained and trialled a dog to CDX title and applied and been granted the dog's title and supply full details thereof to the Board of Directors with their application.

4. be listed on the current DOGS NSW List of Approved Judges for Novice Obedience.

(d) A Candidate for Utility Obedience Examination must:

1. have been a Ring Steward/Trial Official at not less than three (3) official trials in the past twelve (12) months and supply full details thereof to the Board of Directors prior to the date of the practical examination. **(08/19)**

2. have judged at least six (6) recognised Open All Breeds Obedience Club Trials, which in the opinion of the Obedience Tracking Endurance & Rally Judges Committee, were of sufficiently high standard and supply full details thereof to the Board of Directors prior to the date of the practical examination. **(10/23)**

3. (a) have personally trained and trialled a dog to Utility Title standard and gained at least one qualification in Utility Class and supply full details thereof to the Board of Directors with their application.

OR

(b) have held an Open Licence for a minimum of 3 years; have judged a minimum of 15 Open Trials at All Breed Obedience Trials; have stewarded for 15 UD classes at All Breeds Obedience Trials in the preceding two years; have attended one judge's seminar in the past three years and supply full details thereof to the Board of Directors with their application. **(10/23)**

4. be listed on the current DOGS NSW List of Approved Judges for Open Obedience.

(e) A Candidate for Utility Excellent Obedience examination must:

1. have been a Ring Steward/Trial Official at not less than three (3) official trials in the past twelve (12) months and supply full details thereof to the Board of Directors prior to the date of the practical examination. **(08/19)**

2. have judged at least six (6) recognised Utility All Breeds Obedience Club Trials, which in the opinion of the Obedience Tracking Endurance & Rally Judges Committee, were of sufficiently high standard and supply full details thereof to the Board of Directors prior to the date of the practical examination. **(10/23)**

3. (a) have personally trained and trialled a dog to Utility Title standard and gained at least one qualification in Utility Class and supply full details thereof to the Board of Directors with their application.

OR

(b) have held an Utility Licence for a minimum of 3 years; have judged a minimum of 15 Utility Trials at All Breed Obedience Trials; have stewarded for 15 UDX classes at All Breeds Obedience Trials in the preceding two years; have attended one judge's seminar in the past three years and supply full details thereof to the Board of Directors with their application. **(10/23)**

4. be listed on the current DOGS NSW List of Approved Judges for Utility Obedience.

2.1.8 A Candidate for Rally Judges Examination must **(10/23)**:

1. be a member of Dogs NSW for at least three (3) years prior to the application and be a current financial member of DOGS NSW. **(10/23)**

2. be at least eighteen (18) years of age.

3. be a resident of NSW.

4. apply in writing and submit to the Board of Directors with the application, a written certificate/or appropriate form duly signed, stating that he/she has been a Rally Ring Steward/Trial Official at not less than three (3) official trials in the past twelve (12) months. **(05/26)**

5. have personally trained a dog to Rally Master Title, applied and been granted the dog's title and supply full details thereof to the Board of Directors. **(12/22)**

6 forward a letter from an Affiliated Club indicating they have been an active member of that Affiliate for not less than three (3) years. **(10/23)**

2.1.9 A Candidate for Sled Sport Event Judges examination must meet the criteria as set out in the relevant Dogs Australia Rules and Regulations. **(07/23)**

2.1.10 (a) Tracking Judges examination must:

1. be a financial Member of DOGS NSW.

2. be at least eighteen (18) years of age.

3. be a resident of NSW.

4. apply in writing and submit to DOGS NSW with the application, a written certificate from an Affiliate conducting Tracking Trials that he/she:

(i) has been an active member of that Club for not less than three (3) years.

(ii) has been an active Instructor <u>at a Club that conducts Tracking training</u>.

(iii) has been an Official Chief Steward at two (2) and have been a Tracklayer for the Tracking Dog Section and Tracking Dog Excellent Section at at least three (3) recognised Tracking Trials.

(iv) have personally trained **and trialled** a dog to Tracking Dog Excellent and applied and been granted the dog's title.

(b) A Candidate for Track and Search Dog Judges Examination must **(11/19)**:

(i) be a financial member of DOGS NSW for a least 3 years prior to the application

(ii) be over eighteen (18) years of age

(iii) be a resident of NSW

(iv) have an active and ongoing participation in the sport of Track & Search or conducting Trick & Search Trials.

(v) have personally trained and trialled a dog to a Track & Search Dog title and stewarded a minimum of two sanctioned Track & Search Dog Trials.

2.1.11 A Candidate for the SprintDog™ Judges Examination must meet the criteria set out in the relevant Dogs Australia Rules and Regulations.

2.2 The Board of Directors may in its absolute discretion enrol a person who is not qualified as aforesaid but who has other special qualifications acceptable to the Board of Directors.

2.3 Application to Enrol

Written application in the prescribed form must be made to the DOGS NSW Secretary and MUST include verifiable details of qualifications and experience.

2.4 Examination Papers

a. Examination Papers together with Model Answers will be prepared by a person or persons appointed by the DOGS NSW Secretary and approved by the Board of Directors and will be lodged with the DOGS NSW Secretary.

b. All Examination Papers will clearly indicate:

i. Title of Examination

ii. Date of Examination

iii. Candidate's Enrolment Number

iv. Time available to complete paper

v. Total Marks available for whole paper

vi. Marks available for individual Questions

vii. Whether marks will be deducted for wrong answers or for Questions not attempted.

c. Marking of Examination Papers will be undertaken by an independent committee appointed by the DOGS NSW Secretary.

d. Marking of the Examination Papers will take account of the Model Answers provided by DOGS NSW.

e. All Examination Papers when marked will be returned by the Clerk of Examinations to the DOGS NSW Secretary together with a Summary of Results.

2.5 Notification of Results

The DOGS NSW Secretary will notify in writing each Candidate of his/her success or otherwise in each level of Examination.

In the event that a Candidate wishes to dispute his/her result he/she may request an Examination Review to be held in accordance with Section 1.5(d) above.

SECTION 3

List of Performance Judges - Responsibilities and Privileges of Judges

3.1 A person who has been approved as a Judge shall be entitled to Judge in accordance with such approval for a period of one (1) year commencing on the 1st day of July and may apply for further approval annually by lodging with the DOGS NSW Secretary the prescribed application for such approval on or before the 30th day of June in each year together with the prescribed fee. Such an application received after 30th day of June may be granted by the Board of Directors at its sole discretion but subject to the payment by the applicant of any additional fee.

3.2 Approval to judge shall be applied for annually for the year commencing on the first day of July. Until otherwise determined by the Board of Directors an application for the renewal of such approval shall be lodged with the DOGS NSW Secretary on or before the preceding 30th day of June together with the prescribed fee. Such an application received after 30th day of June may be granted by the Board of Directors at its sole discretion but subject to the payment by the applicant of any additional fee.

3.3 A person shall not be entitled to judge at a Recognised Show unless he has been approved as a Judge or unless he has received the permission of the Board of Directors to judge at a nominated show.

3.4 A Judge shall not be entitled to judge outside the State unless he has been approved to judge the **discipline or section of a discipline** he is asked to judge or if not so approved unless he receives the prior written permission of the Board of Directors to judge at a nominated **show** outside the State.

3.5 A financial member of DOGS NSW who is eighteen (18) years of age who:- **(04/09)**

(i) qualifies by examination in accordance with this part of the Regulations to be a Judge may apply to the Board of Directors for approval and entry on the relevant Judges List in which he is eligible to become a Judge, or

(ii) shows cause why an approval which has lapsed and is not otherwise renewable should be renewed may apply to the Board of Directors for the relevant Judges List in which he was a included prior to the time such approval lapsed.

3.6 A Judge who is not available to accept Judging appointments by reason of absence from the State or for other reasons acceptable to the Board of Directors may apply to the Board of Directors to have his name placed on a reserve list for the appropriate List. A person whose name has been placed on the reserve list may at any time apply to the Board of Directors to be reinstated on payment of the appropriate fee.

3.7 The Board of Directors may require a Judge to show cause why his approval to judge should not be suspended, cancelled or refused, or Board of Directors may suspend, cancel or refuse to grant approval to judge, and or an appointment, without giving or being required to give any reason for doing so. The Board of Directors in its absolute discretion may grant an approval to judge subject to such terms and conditions as it may see fit either generally or in a particular circumstance.

3.8 A Judge whose approval to judge or Certificate of Judging has been cancelled, refused or suspended may appeal to the Board of Directors for its reinstatement.

The Board of Directors shall hear or at its discretion may appoint a Committee to hear such appeal and the decision of the Board of Directors or of such Committee shall be final and binding on the appellant.

3.9 The Board of Directors or such Committee may require the appellant and any witnesses to make statements on oath or by way of Statutory Declaration. The proceedings of the appeal shall be strictly confidential and without regard to the normal rules of evidence and a member of the Board of Directors or of such Committee or a person who appears as a witness before it who is a member of DOGS NSW shall not make any reference to, or statement concerning matters dealt with by the Board of Directors or such Committee other than by way of report to the Board of Directors.

3.10 A person who applies for approval to judge shall be deemed to have full knowledge of the Regulations and hereby agrees to indemnify DOGS NSW, the Board of Directors and members from all claims and demands which may arise in consequence of his being granted approval to judge or having the same suspended, cancelled or refused.

3.11 The granting of approval to judge shall not confer any rights or entitlements on the holder thereof except as hereinafter provided, and the cancellation, suspension or refusal thereof shall not entitle the former holder therof to any claim for damages, compensation or right of reinstatement except in accordance with Regulations 3.8 of this Part of the regulations.

3.12 Judges are required to be conversant with DOGS NSW Regulations and with Dogs Australia Rules and Regulations relevant to the discipline for which they are licenced. **(07/23)**

SECTION 4

Judging Appointments - Judging at Recognised Shows

4.1 **DELETED (12/06)**

4.2 (a) A Judge shall not:-

(i) judge an exhibit which he directly or indirectly owns or leases alone or jointly with another;

(ii) act as a handler of an exhibit or exhibit a dog in the same class including the winners of winners class at an Obedience Trial or Obedience Section of a Show at which he officiates as a Judge. **(11/96)**

(iii) judge an exhibit which, during the previous six (6) months, has been used at stud over a bitch which he directly or indirectly owns or leases alone or jointly with another Member or which, during that period, has been mated to a dog which he directly or indirectly owns or leases alone or jointly with another Member. **(06/03)**

(iv) Judge an exhibit exhibited or handled contrary to Show Regulation 12.18. **(06/03)**

(v) act as a handler of an exhibit or exhibit a dog in the same class or section at an Agility Trial, Dances With Dogs Competition, Earthdog Test, Endurance Test, Sled Sport Event, Tracking or Track and Search Dog Trial at which he officiates as a Judge.

(vi) *Deleted* **(03/26)**

(b) An exhibit shall be deemed to be owned by or to be leased to a Judge if it is an exhibit in which, at any time during the previous six (6) months, he or his spouse, his children, parents, brothers, sisters, or their children or the parents of his spouse, their children or grand children, or Members who are members of his household, or in any case any one or more of them, have any interest. **(6/90), (09/02)**

(c) An exhibit inferred to in Clause 4.2(a) of this Regulation shall be disqualified with effect from the commencing day of the Show.

4.3 At each judging appointment a Judge shall properly maintain the Judges Score Card as provided by DOGS NSW. The Judge shall initial any alteration made in the record and sign the completed score card or sheet in accordance with the particular discipline.

4.4 At the conclusion of the judging of each class a Judge shall make his awards in a clear and decisive fashion and record the same in the Judge's Score Card/sheet. Such decision shall be final and binding on the exhibitors unless an exhibit given an award is or should have been disqualified by the Show Committee or pursuant to these Regulations.

Order of Merit

4.5 (a) Upon the making of an award by a Judge at the completion of the judging of a class the award winners shall be lined up in order of merit.

(b) A Judge shall not make the same award to two exhibits in the same class.

SECTION 5

DOGS NSW OBEDIENCE JUDGES TRAINING & EXAMINATION SCHEME
(To be read in conjunction with Dogs Australia Regulations Part 3C)
(07/23)

1. TERMINOLOGY

1.1	Course Convenor:	Chair of the Obedience Tracking Endurance & Rally Judges Committee or a person appointed by the Board of Directors. **(08/23)**
1.2	Trainee:	A person undertaking Judges training.
1.3	Assessor/Mentor/Trainer:	Dogs Australia Obedience Panel Judge appointed by the Obedience Tracking Endurance & Rally Judges Committee or the Board of Directors. **(08/23)**
1.4	Distance Trainee:	Trainee Judges who are considered by the Member Body Obedience Tracking Endurance & Rally Judges Committee to reside a distance from the normal venue for lectures and Theory Examination that would make travelling a risk may apply to study through distance training. **(08/23)**
1.5	Clerk of Examinations:	Person appointed by the Board of Directors **(07/19)**

2. OVERVIEW

2.1 Dogs Australia Member Bodies will be responsible for the Training, Testing, Assessment and Maintenance of Judging Licences. In the State of NSW, DOGS NSW will be responsible for these matters. **(07/23)**

2.2 DOGS NSW will assess Judges in the following sequential order:-

1. CCD
2. Novice
3. Open
4. Utility
5. UDX

2.3 DOGS NSW may assess Judges for a CCD and Novice Judges Licence simultaneously.

2.4 If DOGS NSW requires a higher standard than Dogs Australia Minimum Standards, then the DOGS NSW Standards will take precedence over Dogs Australia minimum Standards. **(07/23)**

3. FORMAT FOR JUDGES TRAINING

3.1 Notification of the conduct of an Obedience Judges Training and Examination Scheme will be published in the DOGS NSW Gazette.

3.2 The notification will include the dates for lectures, training sessions and examinations.

3.3 DOGS NSW requires a Trainee to pass a Theory Examination prior to undertaking a Practical Examination. The Theory Examination will be based on Dogs Australia rules pertaining to the class applied for, the general requirements of the Rules for the Conduct of Obedience Trials and the Regulations of DOGS NSW as they pertain to Obedience Judging. **(07/23)**

3.3.1 A Trainee may apply to DOGS NSW for an oral Theory Examination.

3.4. Apart from the lectures and practical judges training sessions, it is the Trainee's responsibility to undertake self education to gain further judging experience. It is suggested that Trainees organise additional training by contacting a member of the Obedience Tracking Endurance & Rally Judges Committee. **(07/23)**

3.5 There will be a maximum of four (4) compulsory practical judges training sessions.

3.6 Trainees will be expected to attend 75% of compulsory sessions. A Trainee who is unable to attend a compulsory session should advise the Convenor in writing at least fourteen (14) days prior to the session. A Trainee, who cannot attend because of an unexpected occurrence, should advise the Convenor as soon as it is possible to do so.

3.7 Attendance at compulsory sessions is a prerequisite for undertaking a Practical Examination.

3.8 Trainees will be required to complete a Trainee Report Sheet noting their progress during the course. This sheet must be returned to the Convenor by the set date.

4. METHOD OF EDUCATION (SELF EDUCATION)

4.1 Trainees will be required to educate themselves by studying and being conversant with the Rules and Regulations of DOGS NSW relevant to Obedience trialling and updates to the Rules for the Conduct of Obedience Trials.

4.2 Trainees are to attend all lectures and practical training sessions unless otherwise approved by DOGS NSW. Non-attendance at lectures and/or practical training sessions will preclude the Trainee from Practical Examination unless an acceptable written apology is received by DOGS NSW within fourteen (14) days of the relevant event.

4.3 Trainees are required to arrange for a Trainer/Mentor to observe their judging at the relevant level to assess their performance. A copy of the completed Judge's Sheet is to be forwarded to the Convenor prior to the date set by DOGS NSW.

4.4 Trainees are to "judge and critique" a minimum of 30 dogs under at least 4 Trainers/ Mentors to be eligible to sit the Practical Examination. **(08/20)**

5. APPLICATION

5.1 All applications for the Obedience Judges Training Scheme must be made on the application forms approved by DOGS NSW. All requirements for specific classes must be fulfilled prior to the Trainee undertaking a Theory/or Practical Examination. DOGS NSW reserves the right to seek verification of any information provided by the applicant.

6. ELIGIBILITY

6.1 The Applicant must:

6.1.1 Be a member of DOGS NSW for at least three (3) years prior to the application and be a current financial member of DOGS NSW.

6.1.2 Be over eighteen (18) years of age.

6.1.3 Reside in the State of NSW.

6.2 DOGS NSW may approve applications received from members who do not meet the above criteria providing that they are permanent residents of Australia and can effectively demonstrate and produce documentation verifying their experience and qualifications to meet the above standards gained in a previous country of residence.

6.3 A person may apply to enroll in an Obedience Judges Training Scheme as a Distance Trainee.

6.4 To be eligible to apply for a:-

6.4.1 COMMUNITY COMPANION DOG JUDGING LICENCE

6.4.1.1 The applicant must have personally trained and trialled a dog to a minimum of a CCD title.

6.4.1.2 The applicant must supply written evidence that they have been a Ring Steward/Trial Official at not less than three (3) official Trials.

6.4.2 C0MPANION DOG JUDGING LICENCE

6.4.2.1 The applicant must have personally trained and trialled a dog to a minimum of a CD title and supply details with their application.

6.4.2.2 The applicant must supply written evidence that they have been a Ring Steward/Trial Official at not less than three (3) official Trials prior to the date of the Practical Examination.

6.4.2.3 The applicant must have judged at, at least, six (6) recognised Community Companion All Breeds Obedience Club Trials and supply full details prior to the Practical examination. **(12/22)**

6.4.2.4 The applicant must hold a current Dogs Australia Community Companion Dog Obedience Licence. **(07/23)**

6.4.2.5 Applicants who successfully complete the CCD and CD course run concurrently will not be granted the licence for the higher standard until the required judging appointments have been completed and details have been supplied in writing to DOGS NSW.

6.4.3 OPEN JUDGING LICENCE

6.4.3.1 The applicant must hold a current Dogs Australia Novice judging licence. **(07/23)**

6.4.3.2 The applicant must have personally trained and trialled a dog to CDX title and supply details with their application.

6.4.3.3 The applicant must supply written evidence that they have been a Ring Steward/Trial Official at not less than three (3) official Trials prior to the date of the Practical Examination.

6.4.3.4 The applicant must have judged at, at least, six (6) recognised Novice All Breeds Obedience Club Trials and supply full details prior to the Practical Examination.

6.4.4 UTILITY JUDGING LICENCE

6.4.4.1 The applicant must hold a current Dogs Australia Open Judging Licence. **(07/23)**

6.4.4.2 (a) The applicant must have personally trained and trialled a dog to Utility title standard and gained at least one (1) qualification in Utility Class and supply details with their application.

OR

(b) have held an Open Licence for a minimum of 3 years; have judged a minimum of 15 Open Trials at All Breed Obedience Trials; have stewarded for 15 UD classes at All Breeds Obedience Trials in the preceding two years; have attended one judge's seminar in the past three years and supply full details thereof to the Board of Directors with their application. **(10/23)**

6.4.4.3 The applicant must supply written evidence that they have been a Ring Steward/Trial Official at not less than three (3) official Trials prior to the date of the Practical Examination.

6.4.4.4 The applicant must have judged at, at least, six (6) recognised Open All Breeds Obedience Club Trials and supply full details prior to Practical Examination.

6.4.5 UTILITY DOG EXCELLENT JUDGING LICENCE

6.4.5.1 The applicant must hold a current Dogs Australia Utility Judging Licence. **(07/23)**

6.4.5.2 (a) The applicant must have personally trained and trialled a dog to Utility title standard and gained at least one (1) qualification in Utility Class and supply details with their application.

OR

(b) have held an Utility Licence for a minimum of 3 years; have judged a minimum of 15 UD Trials at All Breed Obedience Trials; have stewarded for 15 UDX classes at All Breeds Obedience Trials in the preceding two years; have attended one judge's seminar in the past three years and supply full details thereof to the Board of Directors with their application. **(10/23)**

6.4.5.3 The applicant must supply written evidence that they have been Ring Steward/Trial Official at not less than three (3) official Trials prior to the date of the Practical Examination.

6.4.5.4 The applicant must have judged at, at least, six (6) recognised Utility All Breeds Obedience Club Trials and supply full details prior to the Practical Examination.

7. APPLICATION FOR EXAMINATION

7.1 The Examinations will be carried out in the following sequential order:-
(i) Theory Examination
(ii) Practical Examination

8 PROCEDURE FOR THEORY EXAMINATION

(a) The Obedience Tracking Endurance & Rally Judges Committee will be responsible for the supervision and marking of all Theory Examinations. **(08/23)**

(b) DOGS NSW will issue the Trainees with an examination number which will be the only identifying number on the examination paper. This number will be provided to each Trainee in a sealed envelope at the Examination.

(c) The marking to be undertaken by Judges appointed by the Obedience Tracking Endurance & Rally Judges Committee who will mark the examination papers independently. The Trainee must receive a pass mark by the majority of the markers in order to achieve a pass.

(d) The examination papers must be marked by at least two (2) and if necessary three (3) markers.

(e) The Obedience Tracking Endurance & Rally Judges Committee will appoint a different Panel of three (3) markers to mark papers in the event of a Trainee requesting a review of their written examination. These papers will be remarked separately without conferring. **(08/23)**

(f) All questions with incorrect answers will be supplied to the Trainee with the correct answers.

(g) DOGS NSW will notify successful Trainees who must then pay the prescribed Practical Examination Fee by the required date.

9 THEORY EXAMINATION

9.1 The pass mark for this examination is a minimum of 80%.

9.2 The Trainee must pass the Theory Examination in order to undertake the Practical Examination.

9.3 The Examination will comprise two (2)/three (3) sections:-

9.3.1 Principle features;

9.3.2 Questions as set by the Obedience Tracking Endurance & Rally Judges Committee for the relevant class. **(08/23)**

9.3.3 An Examination covering questions from the Rules and Regulations of DOGS NSW relevant to Obedience Trialling will be conducted for Trainees not already on a judging Panel.

9.4 Distance Trainee Theory Examination.

9.4.1 Trainees who have been approved to undertake distance training may apply in writing to undertake their Theory Examination at an approved venue closer to their residence.

9.4.2 A Distance Theory Examination will be conducted on the same date and at the same time as the Examination held at the DOGS NSW Complex.

9.4.3 The Examination Supervisor for a Distance Theory Examination must be approved by DOGS NSW.

9.4.4 DOGS NSW will forward the Examination papers to the Supervisor.

9.4.5 On completion of the Examination, the Supervisor will place the papers in the supplied, addressed envelope and forward them to DOGS NSW for marking by the Committee.

9.5 A Trainee who fails a Theory Examination may, within fourteen (14) days of the advice of their result, make a written request for their paper to be reviewed.

10 PRACTICAL TRAINING SESSIONS

10.1 Trainers/Mentors must be suitably qualified Dogs Australia Obedience Panel Judges appointed by the Obedience Tracking Endurance & Rally Judges Committee. **(08/23)**

10.2 The Trainer/Mentor must:-

10.2.1 Supervise the Trainee's judging of at least three (3) dogs per session for all classes.

10.2.2 Advise the Trainee of ways in which they feel the Trainee's judging could be improved.

10.2.3 Sign the Trainee's Practical Training Form after completing details of any suggested judging modification or reinforcement of the Trainee's judging.

10.3 These forms are to be retained by the Trainee and forwarded to the Course Convenor by the date set by DOGS NSW. Copies may be retained by the Trainee.

11 PROCEDURE FOR PRACTICAL EXAMINATION

(a) It will be the responsibility of the Course Convenor to arrange the venue, dogs, handlers and all stationery for the Practical Examination.

(b) The Convenor will organise at least four (4) appropriate dogs and handlers for each Trainee. Suitably qualified dogs are necessary to enable all Trainees to be properly and fairly assessed.

(c) Assessors for the Practical Examination will comprise suitably qualified Dogs Australia Obedience Panel Judges approved by the Board of Directors. **(07/23)**

(d) The Convenor will arrange three (3) Assessors for each Panel together with Stewards for the various levels to be examined.

(e) The same Panel will assess all Trainees aspiring for a particular licence.

(f) The Assessment Panel should be positioned so that they can independently assess each dog and handler and the Trainee being assessed.

(g) There should be no collaboration or unnecessary discussion between the Assessors prior to their scores being recorded, however, brief discussion between the Assessors for the purpose of clarification is understood.

(h) Trainees may be questioned with regard to their awarded scores, however, prolonged questioning, or intimidating "*what if*" questions should not be asked. Stress on the Trainee should be minimised.

12. PRACTICAL EXAMINATION

12.1 A Trainee must pass the Theory Examination in order to undertake the Practical Examination.

12.2 A Trainee may apply for a combination of CCD and Novice in the same scheme or, alternatively, may choose to attempt a single class in a scheme.

12.3 CCD

12.3.1 Provide documentation of the number of dogs judged and critiqued as per Section 5, sub-Section 4: METHOD OF EDUCATION (SELF EDUCATION), Clause 4.4 including compulsory Practical Judges Training session. **(04/26)**

12.4 Novice

12.4.1 Provide documentation of the number of dogs judged and critiqued as per Section 5, sub-Section 4: METHOD OF EDUCATION (SELF EDUCATION), Clause 4.4 including compulsory Practical Judges Training session. **(04/26)**

12.4.2 Provide details of least six (6) CCD judging appointments at recognised Community Companion All Breeds Obedience Club Trials including the Affiliate and date. **(04/26)**

Except for Trainees completing their CCD and CD examination concurrently where 6.4.2.5 would apply.

12.4.3 In limited circumstances, an exception to sub-Clause12.4.2 (above), may be granted following application where insufficient judging opportunities have been available. Any exception will be subject to conditions that necessary judging appointments are completed before judging at the higher level can be authorised. **(04/26)**

12.5 Open

12.5.1 Provide documentation of the number of dogs judged and critiqued as per Section 5, sub-Section 4: METHOD OF EDUCATION (SELF EDUCATION), Clause 4.4 including compulsory Practical Judges Training session. **(04/26)**

12.5.2 Provide details of at least six (6) Novice judging appointments at recognised Novice All Breeds Obedience Club Trials including Affiliate and date.

12.5.3 In limited circumstances, an exception to sub-Clause12.5.2 (above), may be granted following application where insufficient judging opportunities have been available. Any exception will be subject to conditions that necessary judging appointments are completed before judging at the higher level can be authorised. **(04/26)**

12.6 Utility

12.6.1 Provide documentation of the number of dogs judged and critiqued as per Section 5, sub-Section 4: METHOD OF EDUCATION (SELF EDUCATION), Clause 4.4 including compulsory Practical Judges Training session. **(04/26)**

12.6.2 Provide details of at least six (6) Open judging appointments at recognised Open All Breeds Obedience Club Trials including Affiliate and date.

12.6.3 In limited circumstances, an exception to sub-Clause12.6.2 (above), may be granted following application where insufficient judging opportunities have been available. Any exception will be subject to conditions that necessary judging appointments are completed before judging at the higher level can be authorised. **(04/26)**

12.7 Utility Dog Excellent

12.7.1 Provide documentation of the number of dogs judged and critiqued as per Section 5, sub-Section 4: METHOD OF EDUCATION (SELF EDUCATION), Clause 4.4 including compulsory Practical Judges Training session. **(04/26)**

12.7.2 Provide details of at least six (6) Utility judging appointments at recognised Utility All Breeds Obedience Trials including Affiliate and date.

12.7.3 In limited circumstances, an exception to sub-Clause12.7.2 (above), may be granted following application where insufficient judging opportunities have been available. Any exception will be subject to conditions that necessary judging appointments are completed before judging at the higher level can be authorised. **(04/26)**

12.8 The following are the requirements for a pass in the Practical Examination:-

12.8.1 Trainees are required to judge a minimum of three (3) dogs.

12.8.2 At the Assessors' discretion, the Trainee may be asked to judge additional dog/s.

12.8.3 Three (3) Assessors must assess each Trainee.

12.8.4 Each Assessor will individually make a recommendation as to whether the Trainee has passed or failed.

12.8.5 A majority of Assessors' recommendations is required to pass.

12.9. Each Assessor's scores must be entered on the Assessment Sheet immediately the exercises are completed and prior to interviewing the Trainee. Should an alteration to the Assessor's score be necessary because of circumstances unknown at the time of its recording, the amended score is to be initialed, and the reason for the alteration noted in the comments column.

12.10 Three (3) dogs are usually sufficient to assess each Trainee, however, an additional dog may be used if circumstances warrant.

12.11 At the completion of the Trainee's Examination (ie, after three (3) /four (4) dogs) the Assessors shall not confer and each Assessor will individually make a recommendation on their Examiner's Data Sheet as to whether the Trainee has passed or failed. The sheets must be signed, placed in the supplied envelope, sealed and handed to the Clerk of Examinations.

12.12 The Trainee will record their points on the supplied Obedience Score Sheet which must be signed by the Trainee, placed in the supplied envelope, sealed and handed to the Clerk of Examinations.

12.13 Trainees will not be notified of their result on the day. DOGS NSW will notify the result to each Trainee in writing.

12.14 An unsuccessful Trainee may request a review of their Practical Examination subject to meeting the published criteria. The Convenor will arrange a different Panel of Assessors in the event of a re–examination.

12.15 All Practical Examinations for that level or discipline will be conducted on the same day at DOGS NSW Complex or an approved venue.

13. RE-EXAMINATION

13.1 A Trainee who fails the Practical Examination may apply for re-examination. DOGS NSW is not obligated to automatically agree to a re-examination and each case will be reviewed on its merits. A re-examination will not be granted earlier than three (3) months or later than six (6) months following the original Practical Examination and will be at an approved time. The Obedience Tracking Endurance & Rally Judges Committee must take into account the need for further practical training of the Trainee and the availability of suitable handlers/dogs and facilities.

14. DRESS CODE

14.1 Whilst a Trainee need not comply strictly with a Dress Code at all their Practical Training Sessions leading up to their examination, they should meet generally acceptable standards (ie, neat, sensible clothes, appropriate footwear, no open-toed sandals, thongs, etc) when judging at "non sanctioned" Trials. However, the Practical Examination is a formal occasion and must be treated in the same manner as a recognised Obedience Trial. As such, the Trainee must display an appropriate form of dress befitting an official at such an event and they will be marked accordingly.

15. FITNESS TO JUDGE

15.1 Dogs Australia Regulations Part 2, Section 1, 1.4 states:- **(07/23)**

All Judges Application Forms, both new and renewal, shall contain the following declaration to be signed by the applicant:-

> *"I declare that I am physically fit and capable of judging in accordance with the Rules and if required I am prepared to undergo a medical fitness test and/or vision test at the discretion of the Member Body of Dogs Australia.* ***(07/23)***
>
> *I further accept that my Member Body may, at its absolute discretion, refuse to grant any renewal of licence and may cancel or suspend for any period or vary in any way any licence already granted or to be granted".*

15.2 Should DOGS NSW consider that the Trainee is unable to meet 15.1, DOGS NSW may:-

15.2.1 Refuse the application; or

15.2.2 Direct a Trainee to undergo a medical "Fitness to Judge" examination.

SECTION 6

JUDGES CODE OF PRACTICE
(This code applies to Obedience, Rally, Tracking and Endurance Judges only)

1. A Judge shall act with professional decorum at all times.

2. A Judge shall give every exhibit and exhibitor fair and equal opportunity in each and every class.

3. A Judge shall act in a polite manner whilst carrying out each judging assignment.

4. A Judge is required to be punctual in availability to fulfil their judging assignment.

5. Should a Judge be approached with an inducement to favour or disfavour, and/or a bribe to advantage or isadvantage an exhibit, the Judge is to report the matter in writing immediately to the State/Territory Member Body.

6. A Judge shall not solicit a judging appointment.

7. A Judge shall complete all relevant requirements of the judging contract. Any verbal acceptance of an assignment by a Judge shall be subject to receipt of the contract within fourteen (14) days.

8 A Judge shall honour each contract and is not free to accept an alternative contract that will affect his or her availability to fulfil the original contract except with the written dispensation of the contracting body.

9 Accommodation provided for the Judge to fulfil an assignment is for the Judge only except where prior mutual agreement has been reached with the sponsoring body for variation.

10 A Judge shall be responsible for the cost of all personal telephone calls, alcoholic beverages and any personal laundering except where mutual agreement has been reached with the sponsoring body at the time the contract is accepted.

11. A Judge who withdraws from a contracted appointment shall not be permitted to judge at any other canine event wherever held on a date, which would prevent him/her from attending the original contracted event, unless conditions of Part 8 apply.

12. Judges shall not criticise by act or word the work of other Judges, nor offer criticism of any previously judges dog/s to anyone including other officiating Judges during the course of the Show, except for authorised ringside mentoring.

13 Judges are required to attend, either in person or electronically, at least one Judges Seminar in 3 years, which is relevant to the discipline for which they are licensed to judge. If a Judge fails to attend such Seminar, they will be transferred to the Judges Reserve List until such time as they can attend a Seminar and pass an Open Book Examination. **(10/23)**

SECTION 7

MAINTENANCE OF SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE

7.1 All Judges are expected to actively maintain their knowledge and understanding of the Regulations and Rules and their interpretations as deemed by Dogs Australia and DOGS NSW and their interpretations as deemed by Dogs Australia. **(07/23)**

7.2 Obedience, Rally and Tracking Judges are required to attend, either in person or electronically, at least one Judges Seminar in 3 years, which is relevant to the discipline for which they are licensed to Judge. **(10/23)**